12th October 1928]

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATHI MUDALIYAR :—" Are the ways of Government so bad that poor Narayana Menon's preaching or writing will affect the tranquillity of Malabar ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" It is because of the preachings of clever and seditious persons that sometimes the security of even strong Governments in the world is endangered."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—" Mr. President, do the Government think that they are so weak as to be tattered and torn by one man like Narayana Menon ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is asking for an opinion."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask my hon. Friend whether this opinion of the destiny of humanity which my hon. Friend just now gave as to the instability of Government under the influence of clever and seditious speakers is the opinion of the hon. the Law Member or of that Cabinet which is enveloped in secrecy ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" It is my own individual opinion, Sir."

Local Boards

Introduction of an amending Bill to the Local Boards Act.

*562 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) when the Government proposes to introduce an amending Bill to the Local Boards Act ;

(b) whether a final draft amending Bill is ready ;

(c) whether the Government propose to abolish nominations altogether ; and

(d) whether the Government have considered any method of reserving seats to Mussalmans, Indian Christians and depressed classes in elections ?

A.—(a) & (b) A draft Bill was prepared and referred to all local boards for remarks. The Bill with the criticisms received thereon from the local boards and individuals consulted, is being placed before the Local and Municipal Advisory Committee at a meeting to be held on the 15th October.

(c) The Government propose to abolish nominations reserving however power to appoint to any district board such number of persons as they think fit not exceeding three to represent the European or Anglo-Indian community or officers of Government. Persons so appointed will, it is suggested, be supernumerary members, irrespective of and in addition to the strength fixed for the particular district board.

(d) Yes.